

# SKETCHES OF ADAIR COUNTY.

Historical and Biographical that Will be of Interest to all Readers of the News.

BY JUDGE H. C. BAKER.

No. 21.

## ADAIR COUNTY IN THE WAR OF 1812-1815.

There was, also, attached to this army a battalion under Major Henry Rennick and another under Major Toussaint Dubois. The entire force was under the command of Gen. Samuel Hopkins, whose headquarters were at Vincennes, Indiana. The troops were marched from Louisville to Vincennes, and on October 10th. General Hopkins set out at their head to attack the towns of the Kickapoo and Peoria Indians, which were upon the Illinois river. The former was about eighty miles and the latter about one and twenty miles from Vincennes. After crossing over the Wabash river, it was discovered that the guides were unacquainted with the country and the soldiers suspected them of treachery. The food and forage gave out, and the men became greatly dissatisfied with the leadership of General Hopkins, and evidently their officers coincided with them in their views. The reasons for their discontent and dissatisfaction have not been remembered, but taking advantage of the fact that their term of enlistment had expired on the 18th day of October, on the 20th, they openly mutinied and refused to proceed further or to obey any command of General Hopkins. Hopkins called for five hundred volunteers, who would continue the campaign, but not a man volunteered. The army then proceeded to march back to Vincennes and reached Fort Harrison, near Terre Haute, on the 25th. Hopkins followed after them and at this point disbanded and discharged them. Here he organized another army of three regiments of Kentucky militia, of which Colonels Phillip Barbour, Nicholas Miller and Wilcox were the commanders, respectively. Many of the Adair county men reenlisted in these regiments, which, during the month of November following, returned to the country of the Indians and destroyed the Prophets Town, consisting of one hundred and sixty houses and containing all the Indian's winter store of provisions. They, also, destroyed other towns and villages of the Indians and returned to Vincennes on November 25th.

There is no record extant of the membership of Col. Wilcox's regiment. Probably many of the members of Capt. Butler's company served in this regiment. A tradition has existed in the Montgomery family, in Adair county, that the William Montgomery, who appears on the roll of Capt. Butler's company, was at the burning of the Prophets Town. Evidently, after the discharge of Capt. Butler's company at Fort Harrison, Wm. Montgomery enlisted and served to the end of the war in some other regiments or regiment, since the writer has heard Robert M. Montgomery and Capt.

Cyrus Montgomery, when they were very aged men, relate that this William Montgomery was their brother, and after they had returned from the New Orleans campaign to Adair county, in the summer of 1815, that their brother was then serving as a soldier some where in the North Western country, and had not at that time returned to his home since he had departed as a member of Capt. Butler's company, in September, 1812, but that during the fall of the year, 1815, while the family was sitting before the fire at night, with the doors of the house closed, the family dog gave warning of the approach of some one by barking, and in a moment they could hear footsteps approaching the door of the house. The mother sprang up and clapping her hands together, and in an excited voice, cried out: "There is William." The door was opened and sure enough it was William. CAPT. THOMAS W. ATKINSON'S CO.

Of the troops which rendezvoused at Newport, Kentucky, on August 31st, 1813, and which composed the army which Governor Shelby led to Canada, and which fought the battles of the Thames and performed the other services in that campaign, was the company from Adair county, which was commanded by Capt. Thomas W. Atkinson. This company was a part of Col. Henry Renick's regiment of Volunteer Mounted Militia. The officers of the company, besides Thomas W. Atkinson, Captain, were Joseph M. Hays, lieutenant, Elijah Stapp, Jr., ensign; John H. Sneed, Geo. E. Elliott, Gabriel Jones, and Aaron Trabue, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th sergeants, respectively; while Benjamin Smites, James Edmund, James Armes and Lyngum Selby were the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th corporals, respectively. The private soldiers of the company were Solomon Armstrong, John Ashworth, Sherwood Atkinson, Wm. Bennett, Joseph Bishop, Isaac Bradshaw, Alexander Bryant, John Bryant, Wm. Caldwell, Jesse Clark, Chas. Coates, James Coates, John Creel, Chapman Dohoney, David Doke, Hiram Hancock, John Harrison, Michael Harrison, Wm. Hayes, Zachariah Holladay, Robert M. Johnson, James Jones, Marshall Kemp, Wm. Lawson, Michael McKinley, Wm. P. Moss, Richard Perkins, Gideon H. Price, Wm. R. Price, Benjamin B. Ray, Isaac Robertson, Henry Rollen (probably Roland) Nicholas Selby, Daniel Self, Haskins Trabue, Jesse White, John White, and George Young.

Col. Henry Renick was a citizen of Barren county and his regiment, including Capt. Atkinson's company, was organized at Urbana, Ohio, on August 31st, 1813. The arms and supplies for the regiment were furnished from an arsenal at Newport, Ky. Lieut. Joseph M. Hays and Sherwood Atkinson, of Capt. Atkinson's company, were the adjutant and quartermaster, respectively, of the regiment. The regiment was brigaded with Col. Micah Taul's regiment, of Monticello, Ky., and commanded by Brigadier-General John E. King, of Burkesville, Ky. The regiment arrived at Gen. Wm. H. Harrison's headquarters at the mouth of the Portage river, on Lake Erie, on the 11th or 12th of September, 1813, just as the

prisoners which had been taken in the battle of Lake Erie were being disembarked from Commodore Perry's vessels. The regiment was embarked in small boats and transported to one of the Sister Islands, where it was encamped for two or three days. From this Island it was removed to Canada and engaged in the battle of the Thames on October 5th, 1813. On the 10th of October, the regiment arrived at Sandwich, Canada, opposite Detroit, Michigan. In a few days it arrived at Portage, where its horses had been left and it departed from Portage on its return to Kentucky on October 21st, 1813.

It will be observed that Thomas W. Atkinson, David Doke, Zachariah Holladay, Robert M. Johnson and Richard Perkins had already served in the company of which Capt. John Butler was captain, in a campaign in Indiana and Illinois, while Wm. R. Price, Michael McKinley, Wm. Lawson, Hiram Hancock, Jesse Clark, John Bryant and John White had already seen service in the same war as members of Capt. John W. Shirley's company, which made a campaign in Ohio. The members of Capt. Atkinson's company have all long ago joined the silent majority, but many of them left descendants, whose posterity yet reside in Adair county. The writer personally knew but one of these soldiers, George Young, who resided for many years and died in the decade between 1870 and 1880, upon a farm upon the waters of Glensfork, of Russell, Capt. Thomas W. Atkinson was a lawyer, as appears from the records of the courts. Chapman Dohoney resided near Milltown and in after years became a very

prominent citizen of the county, and on several occasions represented the county in the lower house of the General Assembly. CAPT. ROBT. PAXTON'S COMPANY.

A company of soldiers, which was enlisted for the war of 1812, from Adair county and which served in the campaign in Louisiana, was that of Capt. Robert Paxton. This company was a part of the regiment of which William Mitchisson was the colonel, and was discharged on May 20th, 1815, in Louisiana. The officers of the company were Robert Paxton, Captain; Daniel Bibb, lieutenant; William Rhea, ensign; William P. Montgomery, Campbell Gilmore, Isham Ready, Alexander Brownlee, and James Armes were the sergeants; and Archibald Rhea, Asa Jones, Wm. Hogan, and Anthony Davis were corporals. Allen Miller was wagon master. The other members of the company were Richard Atwell, Franklin Berry, Nathan Butler, Peter Buckingham, Wm. Baker, Thompson Barnett, Wm. Broner (most probably Brawner), Armstrong Byes, Robert Batron, John Calhoun, James Cunningham, Andrew Caldwell, James Duncan, Joseph Dobson, Robert Dobson, John Farris, John Gillingham, Wm. Gooch, Wm. Goode, Stephen Hampton, John Harvey, Campbell Hayes, James I. Hays, Andrew E. Hays, James Hunt, James Hays, Nathan Hogan, Thomas Helton, John Hogan, Samuel Isaacs, Berry James, Jesse Lampton, Abraham Lumpkin, Peter Lisle, Vincent Lisle, Isaac Lemmons, Robert M. Montgomery, Wm. Morr, Cyrus Montgomery, Micajah Mosby, Wm. McDaniel, Wm. McKinley, Samuel Matthews, Joseph W. McMillan, John Morris, Elly Ormes

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This company was mustered at a spring, which is near the present residence of Wm. B. Rowe, about three miles from Columbia, and near the highway which leads from Columbia to Burkesville. The company took its departure for the war from that place. Campbell Gilmore or Gilmer, who was the second sergeant of the company, acted in the role of musician for the company when it marched away from its place of rendezvous, Gilmer played upon his fife the tune of the old hymn, "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah, a Pilgrim in this Barren." On account of the circumstances the music is said to have made a very profound impression upon all of the persons who were present.

To be continued next week.

There are two ways to win this war. The first is to work hard, and the other one is to keep at it.

A dispatch from Paris states that the people of France not only have for long had the greatest confidence in General Foch, but that this opinion has been strengthened since the latter was made generalissimo. This is, we think, important. The French are desperately anxious that Paris shall be saved from the invader, but General Foch, while making it plain that he expects to be able to save Paris, has made it equally clear that nothing will deter him from striking a mortal blow at the German army, should an opportunity present itself. In other words, General Foch will give up even Paris to advance the general cause, and Paris accepts that decision without contention.—Evening Post.

### Hogwallow News.

Luke Mathews, who has always led a prudent and careful life, has a boy that is learning to be a trick bicyclist.

Fletcher Henstep has swapped a calf for a shot gun and a song book, both of which he will need if he tries to sing.

The Excelsior Fiddling Band has received a new piece of printed music and now they will not have to play altogether by hearsay.